

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on September 28, 2004 for the above-identified reissue application. The Examiner objected to aspects of the Amendments proposed on March 8, 2004 for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.173(b). The amendments submitted in the December 8 Response are re-submitted herein and are believed to conform to 37 C.F.R. §1.173(b). Specifically, all new claims, 30-87, are underlined. All other aspects of the Response filed on March 8, 2004 remain unchanged. The Amendment is now believed to be in accord with and the case is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Manoj R. Ghose
Reg. No. 38,159

Becton Dickinson and Company
1 Becton Drive
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417-1880
201-847-6802
October 27, 2004

#72494 v.3